

**REPORT OF ACTIVITIES  
OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

**By**

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\*Presented before The Reclamation Board in Sacramento, California on February 17, 2006

## WATER CONDITIONS

During January, portions of Northern California continued to see above normal precipitation. The Northern Sierra 8-Station Index gained 9.9" of rainfall, which is 110% of the month's average. The seasonal total to date for the 8-stations is now 45.4", which is 160% of the seasonal normal and 91% of a normal Water Year (50"). (Last year at this time, the 8-Stations had 29.0", or 102% of the seasonal normal.) In contrast, most of Southern California was relatively dry, with San Diego having only 0.36" or 16% of normal for the month and Los Angeles having 2.06" or 62% of normal for the month.

**Summary of Water Conditions in California, February 1, 2006 (percent of average)**

Hydrologic Region	Precip Oct 1- date	Snow Water Content	Reservoir Storage 31-Jan	Oct 1- date	Runoff Apr thru Jul Forecast	Water Year Forecast
North Coast	160	140	115	200	105	120
San Francisco Bay	140	--	120	165	--	--
Central Coast	105	--	135	85	--	--
South Coast	40	--	105	85	--	--
Sacramento River	150	80	120	180	95	120
San Joaquin River	125	120	130	165	110	115
Tulare Lake	105	130	135	115	105	100
North Lahontan	165	125	115	210	115	105
South Lahontan	75	165	110	95	130	125
Colorado River	80	--	--	--	--	--
Statewide	130	110	120	185	105	115
<b>Last Year, Statewide</b>						
<b>February 1, 2005</b>	150	165	100	70	115	100

**Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 2/05/2006**

	Jul 1 to Date 2005 - 2005 (in inches)	% Avg	Jul 1 to Date 2004 - 2004 (in inches)	% Avg	% Avg Jul 1 to Jun 30 2005 - 2006
Eureka	38.74	170	24.09	106	101
Redding	27.56	144	22.96	120	82
Sacramento	13.90	119	15.60	133	69
San Jose	9.20	108	11.70	137	61
Fresno	5.66	96	8.84	150	50
Bakersfield	2.35	72	5.32	163	36
Los Angeles	4.95	64	22.85	294	32
San Diego	1.30	22	13.81	238	12

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 2/05/2006 midnight								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	2,036	1,780	114	2,448	83	---	412
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	3,590	3,155	114	4,552	79	149	962
Lake Oroville	Feather	2,816	2,461	114	3,538	80	28	722
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	768	581	132	966	80	-28	198
Folsom Lake	American	459	519	89	977	47	124	518
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	1,978	1,367	145	2,420	82	8	442
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,666	1,372	121	2,030	82	-24	364
Lake McClure	Merced	671	498	135	1,025	65	-4	354
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	408	341	120	520	78	-19	112
Pine Flat Res	Kings	664	503	132	1,000	66	-88	336
Isabella	Kern	246	164	150	568	43	1	322
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	2,029	1,645	123	2,039	100	---	10

The latest NWS Climate Prediction Center long-range weather forecast maps for February, issued January 31, suggest below average precipitation for all of California, except for the far North Coast, which is forecast to receive average rainfall for the month. Temperatures are forecast to be above normal for most of California, except for Southern California and the northeastern corner of the State, which are forecast to have average temperatures.

## NEW YEAR HIGH WATER EVENT

Since deactivating the Flood Operations Center (FOC) on January 9, 2006, the Department has slowly transitioned from emergency operations to evaluation of the event and non-emergency levee rehabilitation and maintenance support.

The Department is taking steps to evaluate the experience and review the flood management system for areas needing improvement. This evaluation will result in an After Action Report to be used for future planning and enhanced preparation. The process involves compiling information through a series of After Action meetings and collecting feedback from staff involved in the event. The intent of the meetings is to focus attention on what went right during the emergency as well as identify areas that require improvement. The FOC held its meeting January 25, 2006 and field staff plan to coordinate and submit their findings prior to a combined After Action Meeting to be held sometime in March. Comments from all Department staff involved in the emergency have also been solicited via an e-mail After Action evaluation form. An After Action Report will follow that identifies overall improvements needed, recommendations for improvement, and a schedule for implementation.

The shift from emergency operations in the field to levee rehabilitation and maintenance support has been supplemented by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Rehabilitation Assistance for Flood-Damaged Flood Control Projects under Public Law 84-99. The Corps has authority under PL 84-99 to supplement local and state efforts in the repair of both Federal (Corps-constructed, locally operated and maintained) and non-Federally constructed flood control projects damaged by flood. For a non-Federal flood control project to be eligible for

Rehabilitation Assistance, it must have been inspected, evaluated, and accepted into the Corps' Rehabilitation and Inspection Program (e.g., granted active status) prior to the onset of the flood, and still be active at the time of flood. On February 2, 2006 the Corps issued a Notice to Public Sponsors stating that the application period to apply for Rehabilitation Assistance will extend through March 3, 2006 for flood control projects that sustained damages due to flooding during the period of December 28, 2005 to January 9, 2006. Rehabilitation Assistance will only be provided to qualified applicants when the work is economically justified (benefit-cost ratio >1), the damage was sustained during the recent flood event and the cost of repairs is greater than \$15,000. If a Public Sponsor believes their project may qualify for assistance, a written request must be submitted to the Corps Readiness Section in Sacramento. Those that are sponsored by the State, the Reclamation Board and are a part of the federally authorized project should submit their request to the General Manager of the Reclamation Board.

By proclamations dated January 2, 2006, January 3, 2006, and January 12, 2006, the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in 34 of 58 counties due to damages caused by these storms. On January 18, 2006 the Governor requested President Bush to declare a major disaster for the State of California. The President responded on February 3, 2006 by declaring that a major disaster exists in the State of California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, mudslides, and landslides from December 17, 2005, through and including January 3, 2006. The President's action makes Federal funding available to affected individuals in the ten (10) counties of Contra Costa, Del Norte, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Sacramento, Siskiyou, Solano, and Sonoma. Federal funding also is available to State and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of damaged facilities in the 29 counties of Alpine, Amador, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Sutter, Trinity, Yolo, and Yuba. Additional designations may be made at a later date if requested by the State and warranted by the results of further damage assessments.

## **PERSONNEL**

All 27 new positions provided in the 2005 Budget Act for the Division of Flood Management and the Reclamation Board have been filled as of December 31, 2005.

## **LEGISLATION**

### **Significant Legislative Schedule Dates**

January 27, 2006	Last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel.
January 31, 2006	Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in 2005 in their house.
February 24, 2006	Last day for bills to be introduced.

## Legislation of Interest – February 2006

### **AB 31**

#### **(Parra) San Joaquin Valley task force. (A-6/21/05)**

This bill would, until January 1, 2011, create the Interagency Task Force for the Economic Development of the Central San Joaquin Valley, composed of the heads of specified State agencies and departments, to coordinate and improve existing State and federal efforts for the Valley, in concert with locally led efforts, in order to increase the living standards and the overall economic performance of the valley.

**Location:** Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee

### **AB 479**

#### **(Parra) San Joaquin Valley task force. (I-1/4/06)**

This bill would require DWR to study the economic impacts of water supply reduction in specified counties in the San Joaquin Valley, and to report its findings to the legislature on or before December 31, 2008.

**Location:** Senate Rules

### **AB 797**

#### **(Wolk) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. (A-1/25/06)**

This bill would amend provisions of law regarding the rescission of agricultural conservation easements and the number of authorized members of the Delta Protection Commission. This bill deletes provisions relating to local area formation commissions, the election of Commission officers and general plans.

**Location:** Senate Third Reading File

### **AB 798**

#### **(Wolk) Delta levee maintenance. (A-1/4/06)**

This bill would extend the Delta Levee Maintenance Subvention Program by two years to July 1, 2008, and requires the Department of Water Resources to identify levees that are at risk of failure based on a specified evaluation of Delta levees, and to use the results of that evaluation to determine which levees need financial aid for maintenance or improvement projects.

**Location:** Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

### **AB 802**

#### **(Wolk) Land use: water supply. (A-1/23/06)**

This bill would require, beginning on or after January 1, 2007, that the conservation element of a local general plan include flood management upon the adoption of the general plan, an amendment to the conservation element, or the amendment of two or more elements of the general plan. The bill would also require, on or after January 1, 2007, that revisions to a city or county general plan or amendment to the safety element, consider assessments of both the risk to life and property from “reasonably foreseeable” flooding, and to analyze how the local infrastructure can be designed or altered to minimize the risk of flooding.

**Location:** Senate Local Government Committee

**AB 1244****(Wolk) CALFED Bay-Delta Program. (A-1/19/06)**

This bill would modify the State act to clarify the relationship of the authority and its implementing agencies with the federal government with regard to the program, and to conform the State act to the federal act, including changing the title of the program to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program; requiring State agencies to cooperate with federal agencies to meet the goals and objectives of the program; requiring State agencies to comply with the State act without respect to the cooperation of federal agencies; and removing references to federal authorizing legislation. In addition, this bill would establish a board to govern the authority, comprised of the existing representatives, members, and ex officio members of the authority; and would designate the member from the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee as a public member.

**Location:** Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

**AB 1245****(Wolk) CALFED Bay-Delta Program. (A-4/21/05)**

This bill would establish in the State Treasury the California Bay-Delta Environmental Water Account (EWA) and would require the Secretary of the Resources Agency to administer the EWA, in consultation with the Director of Water Resources and the Director of Fish and Game. The bill would authorize the moneys in the account to be expended, upon appropriation, to protect delta fishery resources and improve water supply reliability in connection with the operation of the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project. The bill would authorize the Secretary to accept financial contributions on behalf of the EWA and would authorize the Secretary to accept contributions of water from any source to carry out the program. The bill would require DWR and not Resources Agency to administer the EWA, adds continuous funding, and defines responsibilities of DWR in administration of the EWA.

**Location:** Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee

**AB 1665****(Laird) Flooding. (A-9/8/05)**

This bill would rename The Reclamation Board the Central Valley Flood Management Board and require DWR to prepare a State flood control plan. An urgency clause was previously added to the amended version of the bill. This bill would require the board to prepare reports on the State flood control plan; require the board to notify property owners of flooding hazards; require the board to prepare reports on the status of the flood control system and the condition of project levees operated by local agencies; and to prepare maps for levee protection zones.

**Location:** Senate Natural Resources & Water

**AB 1713****(Villines) Temperance Flat Water Storage Facility. (I-2/22/05)**

This bill would require the Department of Water Resources to establish a water storage facility at Temperance Flat.

**Location:** Dead Bill

**AB 1839****(Laird) Water and Flood Bond.** (I-1/10/06)

This bill would place a general obligation bond measure before the voters in 2006 and 2010 as specified below. Known as the Flood Protection and Clean, Safe, Reliable Water Supply Bond and Financing Acts of 2006 and 2010, the bill includes a total of \$9 billion in general obligation bond dollars over the next ten years for water and flood management, with a total of \$2.5 billion to help pay for flood management programs. Note: SB 1166 is a companion bill and contains the same provisions.

<b>Program, Project, or Bond Provision</b>	<b>2006 Bond Amt.</b>	<b>2010 Bond Amt.</b>
<b>Flood Protection</b>	<b>\$1.0 billion</b>	<b>\$1.5 billion</b>
Project Levee and Facilities Repair	\$210 million	\$300 million
Flood Control System Improvements	\$200 million	\$200 million
Delta levee Subventions and Special Projects	\$210 million	\$700 million
Flood Control Subventions	\$250 million	\$200 million
Floodplain Mapping	\$90 million	-0-
Floodway Corridor Program	\$40 million	\$100 million

**Location:** Assembly Desk

**AB 1898****(Jones) Flood Insurance.** (I-1/26/06)

Effective July 2, 2007, this bill would enact the California Flood Insurance Program and would require property owners located in levee protection/inundation zones as determined by maps developed, or approved by DWR, to maintain flood insurance, unless the State or agency responsible for operation of the levee system protecting the property from flooding has certified that the levee system protecting the property provides at least 200-year flood protection.

**Location:** Assembly Desk

**AB 1899****(Wolk) Land Use: flood protection.** (I-1/26/06)

This bill would require a city or county to include a draft or final environmental document prepared for a development project, a flood assessment and a discussion as to whether the flood protection for the lands upon which the project is proposed to be located currently meets a specified 200-year flood protection standard within five years of the date in which a final map is issued.

**Location:** Assembly Desk

**ACA 13****(Harman) Local government: assessments and fees or charges.** (A-4/21/05)

This measure would exclude any levy assessment for flood control purposes from the State's constitution, which currently requires a majority vote of the property owners whose property is subject to the levy, or at the option of the entity imposing the levy, a two-thirds vote of the electorate residing in the area affected by the levy. This bill would also exempt fees and charges for storm water management and drainage costs.

**Location:** Assembly Local Government Committee

**SB 21****(Florez) Central Valley Project water. (A-3/16/05)**

This bill would authorize the Secretary of the Resources Agency, upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature for that purpose, to undertake and participate in studies relating to restoration options for the San Joaquin River, including the reestablishment of an anadromous fishery.

**Location:** Dead Bill

**SB 113****(Machado) California Bay-Delta Authority Act. (A-4/14/05)**

This bill would require the Authority, in undertaking project review, approval, or modification, to consider the extent to which those plans or expenditures are consistent with the "beneficiary pays principle," as defined. The bill would provide that, for the purposes of implementing the act and subject to certain exceptions, State funds shall fund projects that have public benefits, nonstate funds shall fund projects that have private benefits, and both project beneficiaries and the public are responsible for costs associated with a project that has both private and public benefits.

**Location:** Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee

**SB 200****(Machado) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Program. (A-1/4/06)**

This bill would establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Program administered by the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) with some oversight by the Delta Protection Commission. This bill would broaden the jurisdiction of SCC to include the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and would create the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Program Account. This bill would delete the requirements that SCC deposit all non-government funds in the Coastal Trust Fund.

**Location:** Dead Bill

**SB 350****(Machado) San Joaquin River restoration and water management. (A-7/5/05)**

This bill would establish the San Joaquin River Fund in the State Treasury. The bill would require the Secretary of the Resources Agency, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to expend the money in the fund for projects that (1) improve habitat and physical conditions in and along the San Joaquin River to facilitate the restoration of streamflows and native anadromous fish populations or (2) result in the acquisition of cost-effective replacement water supplies and related actions.

**Location:** Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee

**SB 409****(Kehoe) General plans: air quality element. (A-5/11/05)**

This bill would require that portion of the conservation element in a county general plan that includes waters to be prepared, adopted, and correlated with the land use element. This bill would additionally require the report to be prepared no later than one year from the date specified for the next revision of the housing element that occurs after January 1, 2007, as specified.

**Location:** Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee



**SB 831**

**(Machado) Flood control: Stockton Metropolitan Area Flood Control Project.** (A-4/27/05)

This bill, subject to the execution of a specified hold harmless agreement, would authorize the Reclamation Board to accept the transfer of any project works of the Stockton Metropolitan Area Flood Control Project constructed by the San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency that is considered an addition or extension to the Bear Creek and Mormon Slough Projects.

**Location:** Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

**SB 866**

**(Kehoe) Water use measurement information.** (A-4/19/05)

This bill would require DWR to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature regarding various water use measurement information matters. Requires DWR to conduct a study to determine the cost-effectiveness of more accurate farm-gate measurement and to prepare and submit to the Legislature a related farm-gate measurement report. Requires DWR, the board, and the State Department of Health Services to develop and implement jointly a coordinated water use reporting database, along with standardized forms for submitting information to be reflected in the database, to be made available through the Internet. The bill would require DWR to convene a group of technical staff and interested stakeholders to develop the scope and content of the database. The bill, in accordance with a specified timetable, would require certain water users and water suppliers required to report water use measurement information to the state to do so by using the standardized forms developed for use in connection with the database. The bill would provide for the submission of other reports to the Legislature relating to the use of the database.

**Location:** Dead Bill

**SB 1024**

**(Perata) Public works and improvements: bond measure.** (A-5/12/05)

This bill would enact, subject to voter approval, the Safe Facilities, Improved Mobility, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2005 to authorize \$7,688,000,000 in State general obligation bonds for specified purposes, including among other things levee improvements.

**Location:** Assembly Desk

**SB 1166**

**(Aanestad) Public works and improvements: bond measure.** (I-1/10/06)

This bill would place a general obligation bond measure before the voters in 2006 and 2010 as specified below. Known as the Flood Protection and Clean, Safe, Reliable Water Supply Bond and Financing Acts of 2006 and 2010, the bill includes a total of \$9 billion in general obligation bond dollars over the next ten years for water and flood management, with a total of \$2.5 billion to help pay for flood management programs. Note: AB 1839 is a companion bill and contains the same provisions.

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**Location:** Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

I: Introduced

A: Amended